

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 034425

TOSEC 23

FOLLOWING USUN 575 SENT ACTION STATE INFO TEHRAN BEIRUT TRIPOLI
ABU DHABI BAGHDAD FEB 20 RPT TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 575

BEIRUT PASS USINT BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR IR IZ

SUBJ: IRAQI COMPLAINT IN SC

1. FEB 20 SC MEETING ON IRAQI COMPLAINT TURNED OUT TO BE FULL-
SCALE RESUMPTION OF DEBATE BETWEEN IRAN AND IRAQ RATHER THAN
SIMPLY STATEMENTS BY PDRY, UAE AND LIBYA. GIST OF
STATEMENTS BEING TRANSMITTED IN USUN DAILY SUMMARY.

2. LIBYAN AND DEMOCRATIC YEMENESE STATEMENTS WERE OFFENSIVE
AND CLEARLY CALLED FOR IRANIAN RIGHT OF REPLY. PDRY, FOR
EXAMPLE, MAINTAINED THAT LATEST INCIDENTS WERE EXAMPLES OF
IRANIAN EXPANSIONISM IN PERISAN GULF AREA, SIMILAR TO 1971
ANNEXATION OF ABU MUSA AND TOMBS ISLANDS. LIBYAN STATEMENT
SEEMED DESIGNED TO SHOW SOLIDARITY WITH FELLOW ARAB RADICAL
MAIN THEME BEING THAT SHAH WAS TOOL OF US IMPERIALISM. UAE
INTERVENTION WAS BRIEF AND FAIRLY RESTRAINED.

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3. IRANIAN AMB HOVEYDA CHOSE TO REPLY NOT ONLY TO THESE

ATTACKS, BUT TO REOPEN ENTIRE DEBATE WITH IRAQ. HE BROUGHT UP IRAQI FILMING OF CLASH, EXPULSION OF IRANIAN RELIGIOUS LEADERS FROM NAJJAF AND OTHER MATTERS PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED BILATERALLY WITH US (USUN 546). IRAQI AMB SHIBIB COUNTER-ATTACKED, AND DEBATE DEGENERATED INTO PICAYUNE SLINGING MATCH.

4. SC PRES ADJOURNED MEETING SINE DIE FOR FURTHER CONSULTATIONS.
SCALI
UNQUOTE RUSH

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